



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

in the ordinary life of the people—in the castles of the nobles, in the markets of the cities, and in the villages of the peasants." It is, however, in the "Family and Popular Religious Life in the Decades before the Reformation" that Dr. Lindsay finds the keynote of his two volumes. "The great Reformation had its roots in the simple evangelical piety which had never entirely disappeared in the medieval Church."

Greater emphasis is laid upon the life and work of Luther than on that of the other reformers, though William of Orange, Calvin, the Huguenots, and even Cranmer are most sympathetically treated. Indeed, whether one agrees with it or not a better plea has rarely been made for the value of the individual in history than this by Dr. Lindsay. "History knows nothing of revivals of moral living apart from some new religious impulse. The motive power needed has always come through leaders who have had communion with the unseen. . . . The times needed a prophet . . . one who had himself lived that popular religious life with all the thoroughness of a strong, earnest nature . . . who knew, by his own personal experience, that the living God was accessible to every Christian. . . . He became a leader of men because his joyous faith made him a hero by delivering him from all fear of Church or Clergy. . . . Men could see what faith was when they looked at Luther."

WM. E. LINGELBACH.

*University of Pennsylvania.*

---

**Meyer, H. R.** *Public Ownership and the Telephone in Great Britain.* Pp. 386. Price, \$1.50. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1907.

This book, against public ownership like its predecessors by the same author, contains a considerable quantity of useful information, backed up in the footnotes by exact references to official and parliamentary reports, but it will produce on most readers the impression of being too one-sided to be considered a final treatment of the subject.

Likewise, in the study of the half dozen municipal telephone systems, which were in most cases bought out by the postoffice or the National Telephone Company in 1906, scarcely a reference is made to the rates in force by the private company in those cities prior to the beginning of municipal competition. In reading between the lines, however, it would appear that the municipalities gave an unlimited rate for exclusive service at about half the rates that the companies had been charging, and that when face to face with such competition, the National Telephone Company introduced new and very low rates for measured service. The resulting social and business advantages to the people from these low rates are ignored by our author, who seems to think the whole question is settled by the willingness of the cities ultimately to sell to the postoffice or the company, and by the fact that in the sale three or four of the half dozen cities did not recover quite all of their investment, including their original heavy parliamentary expenses.

With regard even to these last two points it should be asserted that most of the cities following the lead of Glasgow did not wish to sell out,

but found that the government insisted on buying the plants at their replacement value in 1911, and this change of policy in 1905 was far more responsible for the sale of the municipal plants than is brought out by Professor Meyer.

Having said this in criticism of the book, it should be added that certain drawbacks upon telephone development in Great Britain through widely different policies of the government at different times and the evident weaknesses of some of those policies are clearly brought out. In many parts of the volume the author sharply criticizes Glasgow and the other cities undertaking the telephone business because they made prominent an unlimited service instead of a measured service, yet in other parts of the volume Professor Meyer has referred to the American telephone service as in every way ahead of the British. It is interesting to note that the traffic department of one of the large branches of the Bell Telephone Company, namely, the Cleveland Telephone Company, informs the writer that 90 per cent of their 32,000 subscribers in the Cleveland district are using unlimited service. This is substantially true of the rival independent company. All over the United States the Bell companies, after some experiments with the measure service, are now abandoning it. This is certainly an interesting commentary on Professor Meyer's treatment of the subject.

This book, like the others which Professor Meyer has written, will prove of great help to those who wish to marshall on one side all that can be said against public management, and any fair-minded student of the question will of course desire to understand that side and will thank our author for presenting it so clearly. At the same time room is left for a more rounded and judicial treatment of the subject.

EDWARD W. BEMIS.

*Cleveland, O.*

---

**More, Louise Bolard.** *Wage-Earners' Budgets.* Pp. x, 280. Price, \$2.50. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1907.

A more accurate, intense and sympathetic statistical study of the standard and cost of living of wage-earners has never been made, either in this country or in Europe. The incomes and the cost of living of two hundred families of wage-earners are here given, and in the most critical and sympathetic fashion. While this work is by no means so extensive as that of Le Play, Engel, Booth, Rowntree, or of the United States Department of Labor, it is the result of more personal and intimate knowledge of the subjects investigated, and it embodies more of the real life and ideals of the wage-earners than that of any other investigator in the same or similar fields. Mrs. More gives us, in this volume, the product of her research for a period of practically two years in that section of lower west New York City known as the Greenwich House neighborhood. Her research was of the co-operative nature, for she made investigations into the standards of living and the cost of living of those families who would intelligently aid her. Mrs. More's book is all the more valuable, since it is the result of an intimate,